

DISTRICT LEVEL ADMINISTRATOR - SPECIAL EDUCATION

CERTIFICATE (12012)

Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 12

The District Level Administrator - Special Education Certificate is valid for assignment as a District Level Administrator - Special Education in grades PK - 12 in Rhode Island public schools.

Certification Requirements for full Rhode Island Certification¹

To be issued a certificate in District Level Administrator - Special Education an applicant must satisfy all of the following:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Advanced degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Completion of an approved program or RIDE Credential Review for the preparation of District Level Administrator - Special Educators
- Demonstration of meeting the Professional Competencies of the Rhode Island Standards for Educational Leadership (RISEL)
- Demonstration of meeting the Content Competencies as prescribed by the National Policy Board for Educational Administration (NPBEA)
- Demonstration of meeting the professional competencies as prescribed by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) for advanced content knowledge.
- Other requirements:
 - Holds Building Level Administrator certificate
 - 3 years professional education experience in teaching Special Education, as a Speech and Language Pathologist, as a School Social Worker, or as a School Psychologist

Assessment Requirements

All applicants must meet the following Rhode Island assessment requirements:

- Applicants prepared in a program where the language of instruction was not English must achieve a passing score of 64 on the Versant Pro Speaking and Writing assessments.

Current Routes to Certification

Certification may be attained through the following routes:

- **Reciprocity** - Reciprocity is recognition of preparation or certification in another state as comparable to Rhode Island. Applicants seeking certification through reciprocity must demonstrate that they meet all Rhode Island certification assessment requirements, hold the additional required certificate and meet all experience requirements when applicable. Applicants can attain certification by completing a state approved program for Educator Certification in a state other than Rhode Island within the last 5 years OR by demonstrating that they hold a currently valid full certificate in another state.
- **RIDE Credential Review:** Applicants who have not completed an approved program can be certified by RIDE Credential Review by presenting evidence of the following:
 - Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
 - Advanced degree in Special Education from an accredited institution or Master's Degree from an accredited institution in any field of education to include fifteen(15) graduate level credits in special education as part of or beyond the Master's Degree

¹ Full Certification in Rhode Island means a multi-year certificate that demonstrates the educator has met all Rhode Island requirements for certification in the three-tier certification system (Initial, Professional, or Advanced certification). Full Certification does not include Preliminary Certifications which require educators to meet additional requirements to attain full certifications. Full certifications in Rhode Island are comparable to National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) stage three or higher certificates and are recognized by other states for certificate reciprocity.

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- Not less than 9 semester hours of graduate level coursework to include work in each of the following areas:
 - Educational Administration of Special Education Programs
 - Supervision of Personnel
 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation grades K-12
- Eligible for a Rhode Island special education teaching certificate, school social worker certificate, speech language pathologist certificate or school psychologist certificate.
- 3 years professional education experience in teaching Special Education, as a Speech and Language Pathologist, as a School Social Worker, or as a School Psychologist

